

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [12] with the following two paragraphs:

A third embodiment of the present invention includes a method of making an electrode plate for a battery. The method includes supplying a wood substrate and carbonizing the wood substrate to form a carbonized wood current collector. Chemically active material may be disposed on the carbonized wood current collector.

A fourth embodiment of the present invention includes a battery. This battery includes a housing, and positive and negative terminals. Within the housing is at least one cell that includes at least one positive plate and at least one negative plate connected to the positive terminal and negative terminal, respectively. An electrolytic solution fills a volume between the positive and negative plates. The at least one positive plate includes a carbon foam current collector including a network of pores, and a chemically active material disposed on the carbon foam current collector such that the chemically active paste penetrates the network of pores.